

680608

Title: Bow Hunting Season Limitations**The Problem:**

Escalating deer populations continue to be a controversial issue throughout the state and to date have required the WDNR to enact Earn a Buck Regulations. Many areas (towns, cities, etc.), especially in and around the urban areas in Southeast Wisconsin, do not permit the use of firearms within their jurisdiction (no gun deer hunting), but do allow bow hunting. At the present time bow hunting is restricted from taking place during the traditional Nine-Day Gun Season.

Areas where only bow hunting is allowed become deer protection areas during the gun season. Allowing bow hunting during the nine-day gun season may increase deer movement and harvest. In addition, individuals who only bow hunt may have significant time off during this period (Two weekends and Thanksgiving Holidays). Bow hunting during the Nine-Day gun season could increase overall deer harvest, especially near urban areas.

At present, state law does not permit bow hunting during the Nine-Day gun season. I feel that Wisconsin law should be changed to allow bow hunting during the traditional nine-day gun season with the requirement for bow hunters to wear blaze orange.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Waukesha County on April 14, 2008 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule change allowing bow hunting during the traditional nine-day gun deer hunting season.

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